29th March 1954]

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Is the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue aware of the launching of any prosecution against any Multani under the Pawnbrokers Act? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" When they do not come under the Pawnbrokers Act, how can there be any prosecution? Not that I am aware of."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" **May I know the percentage** of Madras pawnbrokers out of the total pawnbrokers in this State? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Evidently, the hon. Member has just now stepped in. I have already stated the number, Sir."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" The Government, I suppose, must be well aware of the great deal of evasion of this particular law and of the fact that these pawnbrokers are lending money at a high rate of interest. Will the Government give us an assurance that the Police will be put in the track of these people who evade the law? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" As far as the Pawnbrokers Act is concerned, the rate is fixed at $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent and $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. As regards the other part of the question of the hon. Member, it cannot be controlled by the C.I.D. It can be controlled only by legislation, Sir."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" மார்வாரிகள் தாங்கள் தொழில் நடத்தும் லைசென்சுக்கு அரசாங்கத்திற்கு செலுத்தவேண்டிய தொகை என்ன? கார்ப்பரேஷனுக்குச் செலுத்தவேண்டிய தொகை என்ன? முல்தானிகளும் லைசென்ஸ் வாங்கவேண்டுமென்று செய்வதற்கு அரசாங்கம் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க உத்தேசித்திருக்கிறது? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir, there is a licence fee and the licence is renewed every year."

Non-payment of bills of certain printers in Malabar for printing voters' list.

* 453 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : **Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the action taken by the Government on the Memoranda presented to Hon. the Chief Minister on 20th November 1953, by the proprietors of Variety Printing Works and S. R. Brothers Printing Works, Quilandy, North Malabar, regarding the non-payment of their bill for printing voters' list for the Government?**

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A report was called for from the Collector of Malabar. He has stated that a major portion of the claims of the printers has already been paid and that final settlement is pending due to non-receipt of original bills in some cases and the final bills and proper accounts in other cases."